



## Kai rides again



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald  
ABOVE: Kai-Orn Ellertson takes his new bike for a spin around the Keizer Civic Center parking lot. LEFT: Hersch Sangster adjusts a donated helmet.

## Boy who was struck by SUV gets new bike after miraculous recovery

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
Of the Keizertimes

Watching him ride his new bike around the parking lot of the Keizer Civic Center, one would never know that Kai-Orn Ellertson escaped death seven months ago.

On Oct. 29, Kai was crossing River Road on his last bike when he was struck by an SUV making a turn off Sam Orcutt Way Northeast. The accident caused a traumatic brain injury and left Kai clinging to life at

Portland's Legacy Emanuel Medical Center.

These days, the quiet, "7-and-a-half" year old is still riding bikes with friends whenever he can.

"Even as he walked out of the hospital, the doctors said they had never seen anything like it," said Sophal Hong, Kai's mother.

On Thursday, May 22, Kai got a special gift, a replacement for his bike that was destroyed in the accident. It was given by the Salem Bicycle

Club and it was paired with a new helmet care of the Keizer Transportation, Bikeways and Pedestrian Committee.

Hong contacted Kai's school, Cummings Elementary School, when Kai resumed riding an older bike that he had long outgrown.

"He was falling down again and again, scraping up his arms. I just couldn't watch it anymore," Hong said.

Salem-Keizer Public School administrators got in touch with Lt. Bob

Trump of the Keizer Police Department and asked if there was anything that could be done.

Trump called Hersch Sangster, Keizer's First City-zen and a long time member of the Transportation Committee and Bicycle Club.

"I put out a call on Facebook to see what we could do," Sangster said. "We thought

we could raise money for a new bike."

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"I let Hersch know I had my grandson's old bike in the garage and we could fix it up and give it to him"

— Larry Miles

## Enchanted Child Care reopens two locations

Owner cannot be part of daily operations

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
Of the Keizertimes

Two Enchanted Child Care locations were permitted to reopen days after accusations of child mistreatment were brought to light.

Under an agreement reached with state officials, Enchanted Child Care on Dietz Avenue in Keizer and a second location in Salem are both being permitted to resume care. The owner, Michelle Long, had to agree to step aside as operator and director of the centers before state officials agreed to allow the reopening. Long is not allowed to be present at the facilities when children in care are present and cannot take part in direct caregiving.

A new operator and director of services has been appointed.

As part of the agreement:

- Children will be allowed to leave nap mats and provided a quiet activity when they are unable to fall asleep. They will also be permitted to use restrooms during nap times. This action is in response to allegations that children were being kept from using the restroom during nap times even if they were not asleep. At least one child reported pain as a result of being kept from relieving themselves. At least two children were kept on nap mats in urine-soaked clothing after wetting themselves

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## Schools: Detail on how fall semester might take shape

BY MATT RAWLINGS  
Of the Keizertimes

While it is still uncertain what school will look like in the fall due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Salem-Keizer Public Schools (SKPS) is in discussions with the Oregon Department of Education about how classes could take place in September. "We wanted to go through different scenarios to figure out all the different possibilities on how school could work," said SKPS assistant superintendent Kraig Sproles.

Over the last few weeks, SKPS teams have come up with four different models of what school might look like in the fall.

- Model one: Face-to-face model.

School resumes in the fall with direct contact with students and teachers. (May not be "traditional" school model)

- Model two: Hybrid model. School resumes as a combination of some face-to-face contact and some digital learning.

- Model three: Distance learning model. School resumes as a totally distant platform with a primary focus on digital learning.

- Model four: Flexible learning model. Schools become extremely flexible. Students and families have the ability to move from digital delivery to a face-to-face delivery without

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KEIZERTIMES/Submitted  
It's still uncertain if school will look more like the video interactions above.

## Pastoring through a pandemic: Local pastors lead a virtual flock



Submitted  
Rev. Gary Zerr leads a virtual mass at St. Edward Church.

**Matters of FAITH**

BY LAUREN MURPHY  
Of the Keizertimes

The Bible commands believers not to neglect meeting together in corporate worship, but stay at home orders and social distancing guidelines have made that challenging for local churches.

Prior to the pandemic La Luz Del Valle, a Keizer church located off Dearborn Avenue, was having regular services three times a week, visiting homes and hospitals, hosting leadership meetings, offering personal counseling and serving in men and women's prison ministries. Now they have services on Facebook live and host meetings over Zoom and the phone.

Rev. Jose Dominguez, lead pastor at Luz Del Valle, is leading his congregation through the new and uncharted times. Not knowing the spiritual

condition of the church community is the one most difficult parts of leading a church through these times according to Dominguez. He said one of the other significant challenges that the church has faced was finding up-to-date pandemic information in Spanish.

Dominguez said it has been hard to do ministry at a distance. Not being able to reach out to the community because of social distancing has put a damper on their service efforts.

"We are united and together, but at a distance," he said.

As a pastor, personally contacting, meeting and visiting members has been a struggle for Dominguez. Though he said he's been connecting with the congregation through text

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